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Letter dated 13 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon the instruction of my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, issued on 13 March 2002 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Valery **Kuchinsky**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 13 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, issued on 13 March 2002 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine

The adoption by the Security Council of resolution 1397 (2002) on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, was welcomed with great satisfaction in Ukraine. In that document the authoritative United Nations body demands the immediate cessation of all acts of violence and calls upon the Israeli and Palestinian sides to cooperate in the implementation of the Tenet plan and Mitchell report recommendations with the aim of resuming negotiations on a political settlement.

Ukraine fully shares a vision of a Middle East region, outlined in the above-mentioned Security Council resolution, where "two States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side within secure and recognized borders".

We hope that this significant decision of the Security Council will give the necessary impetus to the resumption of the peace process in the Middle East.

Of particular importance today is the maximum activization and coordination of the international diplomatic efforts aimed at unblocking the crisis and resuming peace negotiations. Being an active participant in these efforts, Ukraine is ready to further contribute to this end.